

Remarks

Claims 1-36 were pending in the subject application. By this Amendment, claims 2, 11, 15, 19, and 21 have been amended, and claims 25-36 have been canceled. Accordingly, claims 1-24 are currently before the Examiner. Favorable consideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 31-32 have been canceled as directed to a non-elected invention.

The specification has been objected to. By this amendment the applicant has amended the specification as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, the applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and removal of the objection to the specification

The drawings have been objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference sign(s) not mentioned in the description: In Figure 5, "61". The applicant has submitted a copy of Figure 5 with proposed edits shown in red for the Examiner's review. The proposed edits include changing "61" in Figure 5 to "32" and adding "28" to Figure 5 to label outlet 28 referred to at, for example, page 16, line 8. In addition, a copy of Figure 4 is also submitted with a proposed edit shown in red. The proposed edit to Figure 4 is to add "28" to Figure 4 to label 28 referred to at, for example, page 16, line 8.

The specification has been amended at page 1, line 8, to change "08/912,485 filed August 18, 1997" to "08/912,485 filed August 18, 1997, now U.S. Patent 6,048,374".

Claims 25, 27-28, 30, and 33-36 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as anticipated by Rotter (U.S. Patent No. 4,123,332). Claims 25, 27-28, 30, and 33-36 have been canceled, rendering this grounds for rejection moot. Accordingly, the applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 USC §102(b).

Claims 26 and 29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Rotter (U.S. Patent No. 4,123,332) in view of Diebold *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,504,259). Claims 26 and 29 have been canceled, rendering this grounds for rejection moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has been objected to. The applicant has amended claim 1 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Accordingly, the applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and removal of the objection to claim 1.

Claims 2, 11, 15, 19, 21, 26-28, and 30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 26-28 and 30 have been canceled. The applicant has amended claims 2, 11, 15, 19, and 21 to address the Examiner's concerns. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 and 8-36 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-50 of U.S. Patent No. 6,048,374. Claim 7 has been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-50 of U.S. Patent No. 6,048,374, as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Mansour *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,059,404). The applicants are submitting herewith a terminal disclaimer with regard to the '374 patent.

The submission of the Terminal Disclaimer is done for the sole purpose of expediting prosecution and should not be taken to indicate the applicant's agreement with, or acquiescence to, the rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action. In view of the submission of these terminal disclaimers the applicants respectfully submit that the obviousness-type double patenting rejections have been rendered moot. Accordingly, the applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1-6, 7, and 8-36 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting.

It should be understood that the amendments presented herein have been made solely to expedite prosecution of the subject application to completion and should not be construed as an indication of Applicants' agreement with or acquiescence in the Examiner's position. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue the invention(s) disclosed in the subject application, including any subject matter canceled or not pursued during prosecution of the subject application, in a related application.

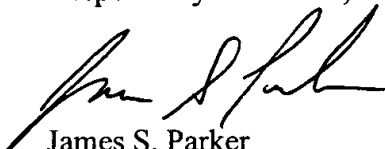
In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments to the claims, Applicants believe that the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR §§1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-0065.

Docket No. GRE-100C2
Serial No. 09/507,574

Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments: Petition and Fee for Extension of Time

Terminal Disclaimer for U.S. Patent No. 6,048,374